TIMES OF INDIA

14/10/1969

Mysore PCC chief condemns PM

"The Times of India" News Service

BANGALORE, October 13: Dr. K. Nagappa Alva, president of the Mysore Pradesh Congress Committee, today described as hasty the letter addressed by the Prime Minister and others to the Congress President, protesting against the alleged removal of Mr. C. Subramaniam from the Working Committee.

Dr. Alva, presiding over a meeting of the executive committee of the MPCC, said the letter was against the unity resolution of the CWC. The Prime Minister's action was most unfortunate.

It was decided to hold a political conference and a special MPCC session to discuss amendments to the party constitution from November 13 to 15 at Bijapur.

The executive also decided to call a joint meeting of itself and the executive of the Mysore Legislature Congress Party before the next legislature session t odiscuss the recent Government document which disproved the allegation of discrimination against the old Mysore region in developmental expenditure and government requirement.

Rally round Indira, says Bihar MP

NEW DELHI, October 13: Mr. Sitaram Kesri, M.P. and member of the A.I.C.C. from Bihar, today asked Congressmen to rally round Mrs. Indira Gandhi to foil Mr. K. Kamaraj's move to oust her from the Prime Ministership.

Mr. Kesri said it was clear that while in Delhi Mr. Kamaraj aligned himself with the reactionary element in the party, in Tamil Nadu he became a socialist of the revolutionary type.

It was not hidden from the people that "Mr. Kamaraj and most of his reactionary associates have almost liquidated the party, except in name, in their own States" and were now busy liquidating it in other States.—P.T.I.

TIMES OF INDIA

14/10/1969

No exception to be made: Ram's tax arrears

Continued from Page 1 Column 5

Rabat, she reiterated she did not think that Rabat made any difference to the Government's policy. "Just because you did not come off well in a particular conference you cannot change the policy," she said.

Asked whether public opinion on the issue was not worked up, she said public opinion had to be educated. "We have to do what is right in the interests of the country."

TAX ARREARS

Referring to possible criticisms in the next session of Parliament against Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Union Food Minister, for his reported failure to pay his tax dues, she asked, "What is there to be criticised about it."

She said that Mr. Jagjivan Ram had paid all tax arrears. Whatever penalty was to be paid, he would pay it if he had not already done so. "We will not make any exception in his case," she said.

The Prime Minister was asked to comment on Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's reported statement that he would like India to fulfil the promises made to Kashmir. She replied that she had not seen the statement.

On Indo-Pakistani relations, she welcomed the meeting between the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. She said India, on its part, had been making efforts to improve relations with that country. Certain unilateral steps had been taken to promote this but she doubted whether Pakistan would make any favourable response.

Asked whether there was any likelihood of a change in the Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh to resolve the Telengana problems, Mrs. Gandhi said, "I do not know of any change."

The whole question of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana was to have come up before the last meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Board but it could not be discussed as Mr. Kamaraj was not present.

Referring to her visit to the Laccadives, Mrs. Gandhi said it was a useful trip. Those areas suffered from a great sense of isolation. It was difficult to understand them from a distance. During her visit she had been able to know their problems at first hand and know the people better.—P.T.I.

PM defends decision to join summit

"The Times of India" News Service

NEW DELHI, October 13: The Prime Minister has, in a letter to Mr. C. C. Desai and four other Swatantra MPs, maintained that though the recent Rabat conference styled itself Islamic, it was intensely political.

Defending the Government's decision to take part in the summit, she said: "Situated as we are and knowing the Pakistani intentions, our presence helped rather than hindered the pursuit of our political objective."

She claimed that the treatment meted out to the Indian delegation in Rabat was already producing reactions in a number of countries, which were tending to work to the detriment of Pakistan, and its supporters.

Mrs. Gandhi's letter was in reply to the one received from the five MPs demanding the resignatin of the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, and the Industrial Development Minister, Mr. F. A. Ahmed. They had accused the two Ministers and senior officials of the External Affairs Ministry of Committing grave offences and bringing about the public humiliation of the country.

TIMES OF INDIA

14/10/1969

Fasts hinder a solution, says Indira

NEW DELHI. October 13.

THE Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, said here today that if the impression went round that decisions could be taken on the basis of fasting, it would have immediate reaction in other States.

She was replying to correspondents aboard her special aircraft by which she returned to New Delhi today on completion of her tour of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive islands.

Asked about the solution she had in mind to resolve the Chandigarh issue, she replied it would not help unless it was acceptable to all parties.

She said it was very difficult to take a decision when there was fasting.

Mrs. Gandhi declined to comment on Mr. C. Subramaniam's membership of the Congress Working Committee and also on the election of a new president in the Tamil Nadu Congress in his place.

Asked whether she would still insist on an early meeting of the Working Committee, Mrs. Gandhi said that, apart from other matters, she felt there were urgent problems like the communal situation to be discussed. "It seems strange that we have not discussed the communal situation so far," she said. The Working Committee in the olden days would have met immediately.

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of the standing committee of the National Integration Council, Mrs. Gandhi said that, apart from the steps to be taken at the Government level for integration, much remained to be done by political parties.

Mrs. Gandhi was asked about the revitalisation of the Congress organisation to meet new challenges. "You cannot suddenly change the organisation," she replied. "Inspite of efforts, it is a very long-term matter."

To a question whether she thought she would be able to go ahead with her policies and programmes, Mrs. Gandhi replied: "One does not know whether one succeeds or not. One can only try."

About the likelihood of an AICC session, Mrs. Gandhi said she did not think there would be one before the next session of Parliament.

Referring to a possible reassessment of the Government's foreign policy in the context of the developments a

Continued on Page 7 Column 3

TIMES OF INDIA

14/10/1969

AICC member's offer to Subramaniam

"The Times of India" News Service

LUDHIANA, October 13: Mr. Satpal Mittal, a member of the All-India Congress Committee, has offered to vacate his seat in favour of Mr. C. Subramaniam, a former chief of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee.

In a telegram to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, he said today that he was ready to resign so that Mr. Subramaniam could be elected to the Congress Working Committee from Punjab.

Sanjivayya criticises party chief

NEW DELHI, October 13: A former Congress President, Mr. D. Sanjivayya, said here today that the Congress President's move to dislodge Mr. Subramaniam from the Working Committee was "untenable."

Mr. Sanjivayya said the AICC rules did not preclude a member from continuing on the Working Committee, and sought to draw the analogy of a Minister being in the Cabinet without being a member of the legislature for a given period.

At the time of election to the Working Committee, Mr. Subramaniam fulfilled the qualification and was entitled to a full term.

Similarly, Mr. Sanjivayya said, the notices on the Andhra and UPCC presidents were not valid. The AICC was bound to give them an opportunity to resign one of the posts, but had no authority to "unseat" them by an arbitrary notice.

In the case of Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi, he had already submitted the resignation but the UPCC had failed to elect a new incumbent.

Mr. Tripathi or Mr. Kakani Venkataratnam was, therefore, free to retain either the Ministership or the organisational post and it was not for the AICC to "unseat" them from the PCC presidentship.—U.N.I.

TIMES OF INDIA

14/10/1969

Check facts, Nijalingappa tells PM's supporters

"The Times of India" News Service

NEW DELHI, October 13.

THE Congress President today hit out at his critics in the party for trying to denigrate him and said he was not going to resign just to oblige them.

Mr. Nijalingappa angrily remarked: "Let these people show what wrong have I done to the party or the country. It has become a profitable job for those who abuse me and say that this man must get out."

About the controversy over Mr. C. Subramaniam's continuance or otherwise on the Congress Working Committee, he regretted that the Prime Minister and five other members of the committee had not extended him the courtesy of checking facts with him before accusing him of arbitrarily removing Mr. Subramaniam from the committee.

When the draft letter addressed to Mr. Subramaniam was sent to him (Mr. Nijalingappa) for approval by the AICC office, he had observed that the facts should be verified before taking a decision on the question.

The AICC office had taken the position that Mr. Subramaniam had automatically ceased to be a member of the CWC as his ex-officio membership of the AICC had lapsed, following his resignation from the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee presidentship.

It was pointed out to him that under the party constitution only a nominated member of the CWC could be permitted to seek election to the AICC within six months. Since Mr. Subramaniam was an elected member of the CWC, this provision did not apply to him.

"But I was not quite sure of the exact position and I said in my note that nothing should be done in a hurry."

Asked whether it was true that the Prime Minister had acted on the basis of information supplied by one of the general secretaries of the AICC, Mr. Nijalingappa replied that he did not believe the story.

According to knowledgeable sources, Mrs. Gandhi was informed that Mr. Nijalingappa had signed the letter addressed to Mr. Subramaniam, removing him from the membership of the CWC.

She was also informed that letters had already been sent to the presidents of the UPCC and the Andhra PCC, stating that their offices were being declared vacant as both of them were holding ministerial posts

BASIC POLICIES

He said he did not want to be the Congress President. He was, in fact, forced by friends to accept the offer.

He was sorry that attempts were being made by his critics to highlight points of disagreement and gloss over the areas of agreement. There was no disagreement over the basic policies which were agreed to at the Bangalore AICC session.

He criticised the press for not having given prominence to the reply sent by him to the Prime Minister. "I do not know whether a fear complex has gripped the press. Anything against me is broadcast prominently," he complained.

He chided partymen who were calling him (Mr. Kamaraj) and Mr. Patil reactionaries. Was it not true that Mr. Kamaraj was the first senior leader to ask for banks' nationalisation? He, however, declined to comment on Mr. Kamaraj's reported statement that the high hopes raised about Mrs. Gandhi when she took over as Prime Minister had been belied.

Mr. Nijalingappa said the AICC office had not prepared any particular note on the ten-point programme. But reports from various States regarding its implementation were being compiled and would be presented to the CWC.

Plot alleged to remove Tripathi

"The Times of India" News Service

NEW DELHI, October 13: The UPCC has taken strong exception to the recent AICC directive, declaring vacant the post of the PCC president.

According to some UPCC leaders close to the Prime Minister, this move had been initiated by the AICC to install a nominee of Mr. C. B. Gupta as president and wrest control of the party machinery from Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi.

Some of these leaders allege that the plan to remove Mr. Tripathi from the PCC presidentship had been finalised at a meeting between Mr. Nijalingappa and Mr. Gupta during the Congress President's recent visit to Hardwar. Mr. Banarsi Das, general secretary of the UPCC and a close associate of Mr. Gupta, was also present. Mr. Gupta, it is stated, had suggested that Mr. Mohan Lal Gautam, vice-president, be made the UPCC chief.

In a letter to Mr. S. D. Sharma, AICC general secretary, Mr. H. N. Bahuguna, UPCC general secretary, has said that Congressmen in the state feel that Mr. Nijalingappa's stand that the post of the UPCC president has fallen vacant is directed against Mr. Tripathi as punishment for his support to the Prime Minister during the Presidential election.

TIMES OF INDIA

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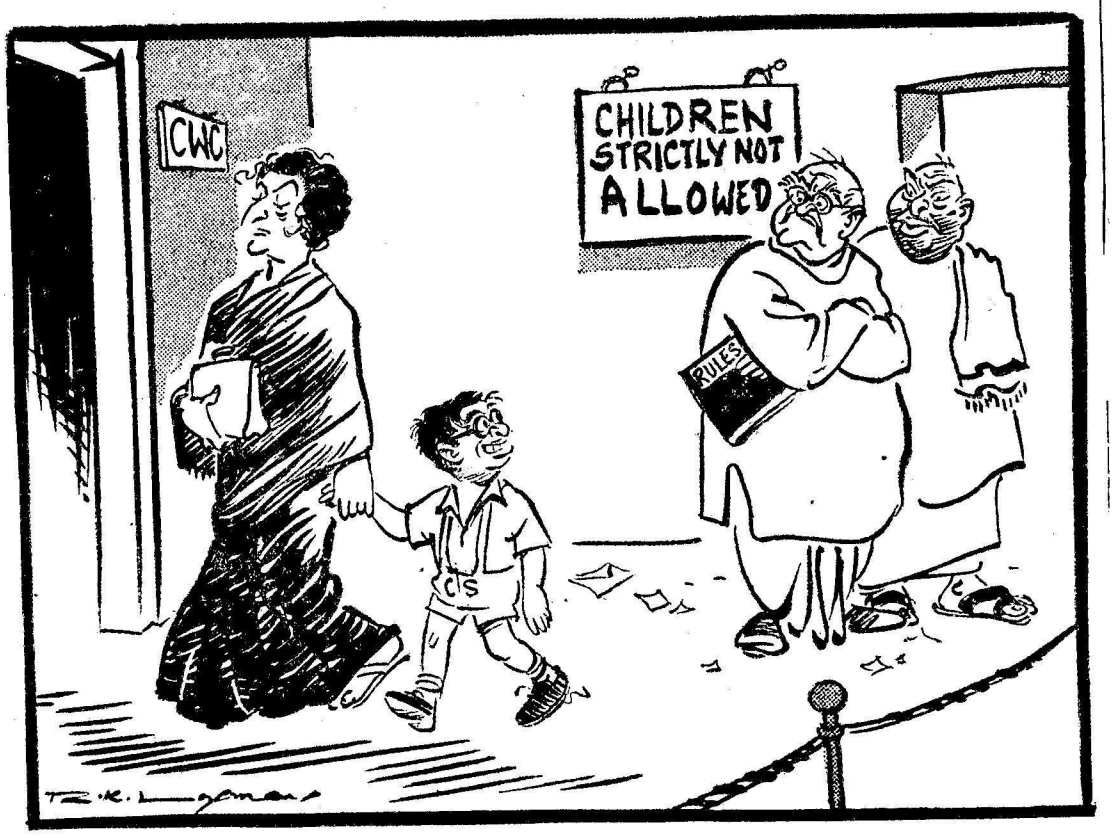
14/10/1969

CHANGED RULES



THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

14/10/1969

KAMARAJ DIGS IN

The "unanimous" election of Mr P. Kakkan as the President of Tamil Nadu Congress Committee in the place of Mr C. Subramaniam is clear notice that Mr Kamaraj has once again resumed control of the Congress in the State. The continuing crisis in the Congress leadership at the national level has no doubt hastened Mr Subramaniam's resignation. But it would have come independently sooner or later. The two years or so that Mr Subramaniam had been holding the office was a period of barely concealed cold war between Mr Kamaraj and him, with their followers engaging in an equally relentless pamphlet war. Ironically enough, the earlier stereotypes were Mr Subramaniam as an unregenerate reactionary parading as a pragmatist and Mr Kamaraj wearing the shining armour of socialism. As Food Minister, Mr Subramaniam had to bear the brunt of the attack of these "socialists" against his alleged subservience to the Americans and dependence on PL-480 imports. The defeat of both Mr Subramaniam and Mr Kamaraj and the debacle of the Congress in the elections did not change the power alignment in the State Congress. The brief closing of ranks during the Nagercoil by-election has also not endured.

What pattern the new leadership in Madras takes will depend upon all-India developments. But it is clear enough that in the current power struggle within the Congress, leadership in the Tamil Nadu Congress has definitely passed to those against the Prime Minister. That Mr Kamaraj is still unreconciled to Mrs Gandhi is clear enough from his reported assertion at a meeting that discipline did not mean refraining from criticising the Prime Minister when she was in the wrong and from the highly selective quotations from Gandhiji that were blazoned from streamers when Mrs Gandhi visited Madras recently.

What importance to attach to Mr Krishnamachari's offer to mediate between the factions is difficult to determine at the moment. Whether he meant it seriously or not, it is clear enough that the rival factions in the Congress are in no mood to be reconciled. Nor can much be read into the "more-radical-than-thou" tone of the resolution passed by the TNCC. It certainly is not an attempt at rapprochement with Mrs Gandhi. On the contrary, it is yet another salvo in the exchanges between the party factions.

With so many factional preoccupations, the Congress is yet to pay adequate attention to its wider political tasks in the State. But if the Congress has any thought to spare for the next general election — which is not all that far away — it should set about convincing the public that public weal does enter its thinking. This is particularly so in Tamil Nadu, where Congress fortune have never been so low.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

14/10/1969

Capitulation to fast will spark chain reaction: PM

New Delhi, Oct. 13 (PTI)—The Prime Minister said here today if the impression went round that decisions could be taken on the basis of fasting, it would have immediate reaction in other States.

She was replying to correspondents aboard her special aircraft by which she returned to New Delhi today on completion of her tour of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive islands.

Asked about the solution she had in mind to resolve the Chandigarh issue, she replied it would not help unless it was acceptable to all parties.

She said it was very difficult to take a decision when there was fasting.

Mrs Gandhi declined to comment on the developments in regard to the membership of the Working Committee of Mr C. Subramaniam and also on the election of a new President in the Tamil Nadu Congress in his place.

CWC meet

Asked whether she would still insist on an early meeting of the Congress Working Committee, Mrs Gandhi said apart from other matters, she felt there were urgent problems like the communal situation to be discussed. "It seems strange we have not discussed the communal situation so far," she said. The Working Committee in the olden days would have met immediately.

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of the standing committee of the National Integration Council, Mrs Gandhi said apart from the steps to be taken at the Government level for integration, much remained to be done by political parties.

Mrs Gandhi was asked about the revitalisation of the Congress organisation to meet new challenges. "You cannot suddenly change the organisation," she replied. "In spite of efforts, it is a very long-term matter."

To a question whether she thought she would be able to go ahead with her policies and programmes, Mrs Gandhi replied: "One does not know whether one succeeds or not. One can only try."

About the likelihood of an AICC session, Mrs Gandhi said she did not think there would be one before the next session of Parliament.

Rabat affair

Referring to possible reassessment of the Government's foreign policy, in the context of the developments at Rabat, she reiterated she did not think Rabat would make any difference to the Government's policy. "Just because you did not come off well in a particular conference, you cannot change the policy," she said.

Referring to possible criticisms in the next session of Parliament against Mr Jagjivan Ram for his reported failure to pay up his tax dues, she asked: "What is there to be criticised about it?"

She said Mr Jagjivan Ram had paid all tax arrears. Whatever penalty was to be paid, he would pay it, if he had not already done so. "We will not make any exception in his case," she said.

Asked to comment on Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's reported statement he would like India to fulfil the promises made to Kashmir, she replied she had not seen the statement.

On Indo-Pakistan relations, she welcomed the meeting between External Affairs Minister Dinesh Singh and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. She said India, on her part, had been making efforts to improve relations with that country. Certain unilateral steps had been taken to promote this but she doubted whether Pakistan would make any favourable response.

Asked whether there was any likelihood of a change in the Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh to resolve the Telengana problems, Mrs Gandhi said: "I do not know of any change."

She said the whole question of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana was to have come up before the last meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Board but it could not be discussed as Mr Kamaraj was not present.

Referring to her visit to the Laccadive Islands, Mrs Gandhi said it was a useful trip. These areas suffered from a great sense of isolation. It was difficult to understand them from a distance. During her visit she had been able to know their problems at first hand and know the people better.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

14/10/1969

Mrs Gandhi on Rabat

Continued from page 1 col. 1

already producing reactions in a number of countries which are tending to work to the detriment of Pakistan and her supporters.

Although the Rabat conference formally styled itself as Islamic, its contents were intensely political. Situated as we are and knowing Pakistan's intentions, our presence helped rather than hindered the pursuit of our political objectives.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
Indira Gandhi

UNI adds: The Union Cabinet discussed for about an hour today the reverse suffered by the Government at the Islamic Summit Conference at Rabat.

The Cabinet could only hear extensive reviews by Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh and Industrial Development Minister Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed today.

Detailed discussions are likely to take place at the next meeting of the Cabinet scheduled for Oct. 15.

Earlier, the Cabinet committee on external affairs also met and considered the issue.

Past practice

Mr Dinesh Singh is understood to have emphasised that the Government's decision to take part in the Rabat conference was in line with the past practice. India had taken part in many Islamic conferences, though these were at the lower level. Mostly non-official delegations were sent, but in 1964 the status of such a delegation was raised in response to the demand of the other participants.

The Foreign Minister said the main consideration behind such participation was to see that religious gatherings or forums were not utilised for political purposes and India's interests in the region were not jeopardised.

Mr Dinesh Singh underlined the fact that India had been unanimously invited by the conference and its Ambassador in Moscow, Mr Gurbachan Singh, had even addressed the session.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

14/10/1969

Mrs Gandhi defends decision on Rabat

Hindustan Times Correspondent

New Delhi, Oct. 13—Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has justified the Government's decision to send an official delegation to the Rabat Islamic Summit. She maintains that the "treatment" meted out to India had created adverse reaction against Pakistan.

Mr C. C. Desai, Swatantra Parliamentary Party secretary, had addressed a letter to the Prime Minister criticising the "Rabat fiasco" and demanding dismissal of Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh and Foreign Ministry's top officials responsible for advising the Government to participate in the conference.

Clarifying the Government stand on the character of the conference, Mrs Gandhi has told Mr Desai his observations are not warranted. Although the conference "styled itself as Islamic, its contents were intensely political."

The Prime Minister has suggested that the overall result of the Rabat episode will be beneficial to India. Indeed, it "is already producing reactions in a number of countries which are tending to work to the detriment of Pakistan and her supporters."

PM's letter

The following is the full text of the letter released today by Mr Desai:

New Delhi,
Oct. 5, 1969

Dear Shri Desai,

I have your letter of September 28. I must say that I was somewhat surprised that one, who has served as High Commissioner in Karachi and should know the inner working of Pakistan's foreign policy, should have reacted in a manner in which you have done to the Rabat Conference and its aftermath. The high emotional tone of your letter is unlike a seasoned diplomat such as you.

I am just as concerned as you about upholding the dignity of our country and promoting and protecting our interests. However, you have rushed to certain conclusions which do not appear to be warranted. We have to act with dignity and restraint. Indeed, the treatment meted out to the Indian delegation in Rabat is

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THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

14/10/1969

Party programme not flouted; Nijalingappa

Continued from page 1 col. 1

agreement on major issues of policy and, therefore, it was wrong for anyone to say that he has flouted the party programme. At the same time whatever decisions had been taken were taken collectively by the Congrses. But an effort was being made to tell the world that Mrs Gandhi "alone had done it."

Mr Nijalingappa asked whether it was not a fact that Mr Kamaraj was the first to demand bank nationalisation. There were some attempts to dub some people as "reactionaries" without any warrant. He himself has sought the Centre's permission to set up a small car factory in Mysore in the public sector, but the same was denied to him. At the same time propaganda was carried on against him that he was not in favour of the public sector.

Asked why the partys programme had remained unimplemented, he said: "Ask the Prime Minister. I am not in charge of the Government which is responsible for implementing party programme."

Report denied

A correspondent asked whether Mr S. K. Patil could be called "progressive" because he opposed the ban on company donations to political parties, Mr Nijalingappa said that a Congress member was free to criticise a Bill. This measure had not been approved by the Congress Working Committee. He admitted that it was because of this Bill that the Congress Party was in the red financially.

He denied the report that the AICC was preparing a comprehensive note which would be a "virtual indictment" of the Government. He said that the AICC secretariat had prepared no note so far on the implementation of the 10-point economic programme. Information about the implementation of the 10-point programme from the States had been tabulated and circulated during the Faridabad Congress session. Since then two more State Governments —Maharashtra and Gujarat—had also sent in their replies. These were being summarised and would be presented to the Working Committee.

He denied the allegation that action against Mr Subramaniam and the PCC chiefs of U.P. and Andhra could be regarded as a part of an effort to "squeeze out" important followers of the Prime Minister from the organisation. He only wanted to discharge his obligations under the party constitution. "Does anyone seriously believe that the removal of two or three persons will affect Mrs Gandhi's strength. Are we concerned with individuals or party? Some people think that scandalising people is more important. There is an attempt to spotlight points of supposed disagreement rather than floodlighting areas of agreement."

Asked when the conflict among the top leaders would end, Mr Nijalingappa said that could happen only if the leaders ceased to think of themselves and thought more of their duties and responsibilities to the party and the country. "Some people want to create differences. I do not see any differences." Without discipline the Congress could not survive, he said.

M. Nijalingappa said Mr Subramaniam had been invited to the meeting of the Congress Working Committee because he had not yet removed him from membership. He refused to disclose what he proposed to do about Mr Subramaniam and whether there would be any special invitees to the meeting.

He was amazed that senior party leaders thought it proper to send him a joint note without ascertaining whether in fact he had addressed any letter to Mr Subramaniam regarding his Working Committee membership.

"The elementary courtesy of at least asking me was not extended to me by them," he said.

He had rung up Home Minister Chavan after receiving the letter and conveyed his distress at their action, Mr Chavan told him that the whole issue was so sensitive that they had to do something immediately on hearing reports about Mr Subramaniam's removal from the Working Committee.

When a correspondent referred to reports that one of his general secretaries himself had told the Prime Minister that he had sent a letter to Mr Subramaniam, Mr Nijalingappa angrily replied: "I don't believe it. It is a story created for the purpose. No general secretary of mine could have done so. It is a figment of somebody's imagination."

If any attempt was made by anyone to ferret out information from the other staff members, it was not ethical.

Kamaraj accused

Mr Sitaram Kesari, MP, member of the All-India Congress Committee, today accused former Congress President Kamaraj and his associates of trying to upset the Congress organisation "root and branch" in the country after "almost liquidating" the Congress in their own States.

Referring to the reported statement by Mr Kamaraj at the meeting of the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee that he twice made Mrs Indira Gandhi the Prime Minister, Mr Kesari said all that Mr Kamaraj did in 1967 was to impose Mr Morarji Desai as Deputy Prime Minister. There was absolute majority for Mrs Gandhi at that time.

In 1966, Mr Kesari said, Mrs Gandhi was elected the leader, defeating Mr Desai in an open contest. If anything, the initiative came from the Chief Ministers and Mr Kamaraj only followed it. From the observations of Mr Kamaraj, Mr Kesari said, only one conclusion could be drawn: That Mr Subramaniam's disclosure that Mr Kamaraj tried to oust Mrs Gandhi by offering Prime Ministership to Mr Y. B. Chavan was quite correct.

Mr Kesari said: "In Tamil Nadu, Mr Kamaraj appears to be the socialist of the most revolutionary type, but in Delhi he aligned himself with reactionary elements in the Congress."

He appealed to Mr Kamaraj and other leaders to give up talking at cross purposes and help in the implementation of the programmes adopted by the A-ICC from time to time.

Mr Kamaraj's charge that Mrs Gandhi had failed to implement the socialist programme of the Congress is "patently false because the failure, whatever it may be, has been caused by the persistent obstruction of those Congressmen with whom Mr Kamaraj has allied himself," said Mr Kesari.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES

14/10/1969

Nijalingappa says he won't resign

Hindustan Times Correspondent

New Delhi, Oct. 13—Congress President Nijalingappa today came out openly against the Prime Minister's supporters and said he would not oblige them by resigning from office as some of them had demanded.

Referring to the move by some supporters of Mrs Gandhi to move a censure motion against him at the next AICC session, he told newsmen that a presistent campaign to denigrate him had been started. "Any stick seems to be good enough to beat me with," he said in a voice full of emotion.

He asked his critics to prove what wrong he had done to the organisation or in what manner had he failed in fulfilling his duties as Congress President. He had been forced to accept the Congress Presidentship much against his wish by his "old and valued friends." He had not found the office at all attractive.

Press assailed

Mr Nijalingappa bore a grudge against the Press for displaying statements attacking him but not giving prominence to what he said. "I don't know whether a fear complex is operating in the Press. Everything said against me is broadcast very well and what I say never gets prominence. My critics are interested in crying me down. They abuse me. It has become a profitable job for them to say that I should go out."

The impression the Congress President gave is that he is not interested in forcing a showdown, but at the same time his critics will not succeed in making him voluntarily quit the post. His emphasis throughout was on unity and he repeated that he had strictly adhered to the "unity resolution" of the Congress Working Committee. Wherever he had gone he had called upon the Congress "to bury the hatchet" and open a new chapter of co-operation. He argued that there was no dis-

Continued on page 11 col. 4

DECCAN HERALD

14-10-1969

Statesmanlike

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Karunanidhi's advice to the DMK unit in Mysore State to identify itself wholly with the causes and aspirations of the Kannadigas and work unitedly with them for the overall progress and prosperity of the State is statesmanlike. This is in sharp contrast to the pronouncements and activities of some chauvinistic hotheads among different linguistic groups, who for their own selfish ends, try to create discord among cultural groups where none need exist. If some groups try to raise the bogey of Kannada being in danger—as if a virile and growing language like Kannada can be swamped out of existence—there are others who suffer from an imaginary sense of persecution that they are being singled out for harsh treatment, because they speak a different language. That both these fears are unfounded and are merely the creations of a few self-styled leaders and their militant followers, happily in a microscopic minority, is evident from the fact that the vast majority of the people live in peace and go about their daily activities without let or hindrance. The mass of people are generally peace-minded and are not interested in allowing themselves to be disturbed from the even run of their daily routine. Their hands are already full with tackling their own economic problems of spiralling prices and difficult living conditions, and they have obviously no time for the political pastime of agitations and demonstrations. It is only the unemployed politicians —most of them unemployable too—that have a vested interest in creating disturbances and appealing to the people's dark impulses so as to keep themselves in the forefront as leaders. Mr. Karunanidhi's advice to his followers in Mysore that they should strive for the supremacy of Kannada in Karnataka, even as Tamil Nadu DMK had fought for the supremacy of Tamil in that State, may be seen by some as a clever move on the part of the DMK to outgrow its provincial character and to project its claim and image of being a major political force in the South, and as part of its new programme of spreading its activities to the neighbouring linguistic States of Mysore, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. But the soundness of his advice, however, is certainly unexceptionable. While there is nothing wrong in the attempt of a political party to propagate its own philosophy among the people it seeks to serve, the extent of its success depends on the mass support and loyalty it is able to command by its own honesty of purpose and sincerity of service. This applies to the DMK as well.

DECCAN HERALD

14-10-1969

Sivappa wants local man as Mysore VC

BANGALORE, Oct. 13.—Opposition leader S. Sivappa today urged the State Government to choose a "Mysorean" for the Vice-Chancellorship of the Mysore University, falling vacant shortly.

His stress on a "Mysorean" obviously meant a person from the old Mysore area. When a reporter sought clarification, he smiled and nodded.

Mr. Sivappa wanted that the Government, in deciding on this appointment, should appreciate the regional and linguistic aspirations of the people.

If anybody thought that an outsider would make a better Vice-Chancellor it was wrong, he said, asserting that "Mysore has talents to manage its university as efficiently as others could."

Pointing out the need to have a man who combined in himself academic distinction, administrative ability and political background, Mr. Sivappa said that the experience so far had shown that an academician without administrative ability could not be a success as a Vice-Chancellor.

Mr. Sivappa was against the appointment of a politician as the Vice-Chancellor, but favoured a person with "political bent of mind" which would help him in handling situations in the Senate or elsewhere.

Meeting on 'Mysore After Integration'

BANGALORE, Oct. 13.—A joint meeting of the M.P.C.C. and the Mysore Legislature Congress Party Executives will be held before the next session of the Legislature to consider the statistics regarding development of different regions in the State contained in 'Mysore After Integration'.

The decision to call for such a meeting was made here today by the M.P.C.C. Executive which met here today, says a note from the M.P.C.C

Today's meeting also decided to call for a Political Conference and a special session of the M.P.C.C. General Body at Bijapur in November to consider the constitution amendment. At that time, the Executive of the M.P.C.C. would also meet.

The M.P.C.C. Executive also decided to construct a building in the premises of the Congress House.

INDIAN EXPRESS

14-10-1969

'Neglect' cry deplored

SHIMOGA, Oct. 13

Mr. M. P. Eswarappa, former Opposition Leader in the Mysore Legislative Council, in a statement, says:

The recent controversy raised by some friends regarding the alleged diversion of Rs. 250 crores from the Old Mysore area to other parts of the State and the continuous neglect of the Old Mysore area and certain communities in it after the new State was formed, looks rather amusing, though their crusade against the people of a certain community and area smacks of a stinking odour.

Mr. M. V. Krishnappa and Mr. Dayanand Sagar who sponsored the candidature of Mr. B. D. Jatti for the Chief Ministership having faith in his impartiality cannot, I suppose attribute the things having happened in the way they allege during his period of office between 1958 and 1962. Having themselves been in the Cabinet between 1962 and 1967, they are a party to it if 'such things have happened; If they say, they protested then,—without resigning from the Cabinet, nobody knows about it. 1967 to 1969 is too short a period for such things to happen.

Then, perhaps, the whole idea is an instantaneous revelation to them after certain developments in the country's politics prompting them to become the self-styled champions of region and religious. It is rather surprising Mr. K. Hanumanthaiah who stood for unification of Karnataka has demanded a judicial probe into the matter. The Chief Minister has thought it fit to contradict these allegations by publishing brochures and press notes.

To my mind, the whole dialogue seems to be irrelevant nonsense fraught with danger to the poise, communal harmony and integrity of the State which should be dear to the mind and heart of anybody interested in the well being of the State, and particularly to those who profess to work in public life. Unfortunately even now, nothing moves the masses more than the "cry of region and religion being in danger" and if such cries are raised with no reason or rhyme, one is definitely doing a disservice to the State by trying to disturb the tranquillity and peace in the State.

Ours is a democratic country and there are institutions like legislature, executive and judiciary which are meant to safeguard the interests of every region, class, community and individual and to say that things have happened otherwise in spite of them is a very bad reflection on them; and I do not think that there is any basis for such allegations being made by my frinds.

Admittedly some integrated areas are backward areas, and if any Government has diverted a little more funds to develop them, it is perfectly justified in the process of even development of all the areas of the State. If on the other hand these friends believe in succeeding by raising such a bogy, as a strategy in their political game, they are wrong. It is open for them to do by other honourable means instead of playing this dangerous game. Hence, I appeal to the concerned to stop this futile controversy in the interest of the integrity and well being of the State.

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NEW T.N.C.C. PRESIDENT

IN the context of the vertical split in the Congress, at organisational as well as Ministerial levels, it is a little difficult to understand, and certainly unwise to speculate, whether Mr Kakkan's election as TNCC president will help refurbish the party's image in the State. Mr Kakkan is a veteran Congressman, devoted to the cause, and has great experience of men and matters in Tamilnadu. So is Mr C. Subramaniam on whose election as TNCC president great hopes had been pinned, only to be falsified by subsequent developments. It is basically, however, the TNCC's weaknesses as the result of faction fights at higher levels, not the incapacity of particular individuals at State level, that led to Mr Subramaniam's resignation. That Mr Kamaraj is in undisputed control of the TNCC has been proved not so much by Mr Kakkan's unanimous election but by the fact that Mr Subramaniam did not even care to offer an explanation on his resignation. Only a few days earlier, he had issued a very controversial public statement on why he had decided to quit, but he did not have the courage to repeat those charges to the TNCC to which alone he was responsible.

It is not a little remarkable that almost alone to congratulate Mr C. Subramaniam on his resignation from the TNCC presidentship as well as on Mr Kakkan's election to this office was the Tamilnadu Chief Minister, Mr Karunanidhi hopes that Mr Kakkan will make the Congress Party strong and united in Tamilnadu and assures him that the DMK does not want to profit from the bickerings in the opposition. Why he shows such generosity, which he did not extend two years ago, is not much of a mystery. Is it because of the contempt with which the DMK is today viewing its principal political rival which lies prostrate and helpless after the debacle in the last general elections? Or is it because he sincerely believes that the parliamentary system of government can function successfully only if there is a strong second party that can replace the DMK Government when the suitable opportunity comes?

Politics is a dirty game and is played in India mostly by unscrupulous politicians. Unfortunately, also, by people who are immature and who do not care to learn the lessons of history or profit from their own bitter experiences. Particularly so by people who still believe that only the Congress can deliver the goods (without explaining the nature of the goods they propose to deliver) or that parliamentary democracy can survive in India only under the aegis of the Congress Party. Parliamentary democracy, we thought, required the two-party system for its success. One-party rule for all time to come is Communist or Fascist in conception. Labour in Britain will never claim that the Conservatives cannot deliver the goods Or vice-versa. In the United States, the Republicans dare not challenge the capacity of Democrats to run the government if the people so decide. It is only in India we have often to listen to Congress claims of monopoly in wisdom and government. So long as this habit persists, Mr Karunanidhi is justified in asking the Congress to mend its fences against paper tigers.

THE MAIL

14/10/1969

C.B. Gupta Unhappy Over Bickerings in Congress Party

NAINITAL, Oct. 13.

THE U. P. Chief Minister, Mr C. B. Gupta, said yesterday that he was unhappy that Congress leaders, who should maintain unity and strengthen the party, "should persist in illusory statements based on wrong information".

Mr Gupta was commenting on the letter which the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and her colleagues had witten to the Congress President, Mr S. Nijalingappa, accusing the latter of "arbitrary action"

Mr Gupta said: "If things continue like this, the workers in the Congress organisation will feel bewildered and divide the Congress at each and every stage".

Replying to a question with regard to Mr Subramaniam and the issue of two Pradesh Congress Presidents, (Andhra Pradesh and U.P.) Mr Gupta said the questions should be decided at the "proper forum".

The UPCC General Secretary, Mr H. N. Bahuguna, yesterday left for Delhi to meet the Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and the Congress President, Mr S. Nijalingappa to discuss the question.

State Congress sources were sore over the letter which, they said, had created "unnecessary rumblings" and "group rivalries" in the State Congress.

Charge Against Chavan

KOLHAPUR (Maharashtra) Oct. 13: The Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly, Mr K. N. Dhulap, charged the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee and Mr Y. B. Chavan, Union Home Minister, with playing power politics.

Addressing a public meeting here on Saturday, Mr Dhulap said the MPCC and Mr Chavan had supported the "Syndicate" candidate in the Presidential election, but changed their stand and supported the Prime Minister's progressive programmes when Mr Sanjiva Reddi was defeated.

M.P.s' Demand

NEW DELHI, Oct 13: Mr Chandra Shekhar and Mr Krishan Kant, MPs said yesterday it is imperative that the AICC should decide upon a time-bound programme of action 'for implementing the economic resolutions adopted at Bangalore.

In a joint statement they said it was "distressing" that instead of initiating a process of national debate on basic economic issues the energies of the party leadership were being directed "to exhibit skill at vindictive action, political manoeuverings and technical manipulations of party constitution for gaining a point in the power struggles to keep hold on the organisational machinery."

Such an atmosphere which encouraged personality clashes was "deliberately whipped up" by those who were "lovers of the status quo."

The cry of upholding party discipline, they said, "cannot convince anybody" if notice was not taken of flagarant violations of party decisions and denunciation of policies adopted.—PTI.

THE MAIL

14/10/1969

Communists Out to Split Congress, Warns Kamaraj

By A Staff Reporter

MADRAS, Oct. 13.

MR K. KAMARAJ yesterday warned top Congress leaders against playing into the hands of the Right Communists.

Addressing the concluding session of the two-day meeting of the Tamilnadu Congress Committee, Mr Kamaraj said the Right Communists were flattering one group in the Congress as the "most progressive" just to wreck the organisation.

The people at Delhi did not seem to have realised this danger. It was these Communists who were trusted very much there. How could the Congress leaders believe the Right Communists, who were out to topple their own "brothers", the Left Communists, in Kerala. "When they try to topple the Kerala Ministry, what will they not do to you", he asked. He expected the Right Communists to adopt the same strategy in West Bengal in three months' time.

The Left Communists called the Right Communists reactionaries because they did not like them. "We are also doing the same thing in the Congress; those we do not like we dub as reactionaries." He wondered whether the Congress was copying Communist tactics or it was the other way about.

DMK No Party At All

He said there was a deliberate move to tarnish his name on the bank nationalisation issue. He did not mind the DMK's attempts in this direction as he did not consider the DMK "a party at all." But the Right Communists also adopted this strategy. If the party could exist only with the support of opposition parties the organisation might as well be wound up.

He conceded that the Congress was now weak. It should not be weakened further. He was fully aware of the feelings of the members over maintenance of discipline.

The indiscipline made one sad and angry—sad because the party was becoming weak and angry because the Congress members themselves were responsible for it. Only real Congressmen were sad, not due to selfishness, but because of the repercussions in the country if the Congress became weak or was split.

Some did not care whether the Congress was split or remained united. This was not courage but irresponsibility. The country was plagued with all kinds of confusions including the confusion over the Centre's language resolution. In spite of this the Congress remained as the sole unifying force and it should not be weakened.

He blamed all political leaders, including Congressmen, for the glaring mistakes apparent now. Charging these leaders with pursuing personal interests forgetting the country's interests, he said these leaders had created a craze among people for power and wealth. They had forgotten Gandhiji's teachings. It was high time they recaptured the Gandhian spirit.

Congress leaders should sit together to chalk out a plan of action for people's welfare. "Let our difference ramain; what we are going to do to the people is the vital thing; let us not highlight the divisions", he said.

He criticised Government for continuing the special privileges of princes when the Constitution had proclaimed equality. He said the Centre should be strong. But this could not be brought about by just arming it with more powers through legislation. The Centre should win the confidence of the people, he added.

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S.N. stand

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that he had not received any invitation to the Congress Working Committee meeting).

Although it has not been put on the agenda the Working Committee is likely to discuss whether Mr. Subramaniam could continue as its member or not.

Other items on the agenda include political situation particularly in relation to recent communal flare-up in Gujarat, economic situation in relation to the implementation of 10-point programme and the Fourth Plan and the foreign policy. Although India's abortive attempt to seek entry into recent Islamic summit at Rabat does not figure separately on the agenda most of the discussion on foreign policy is likely to centre on it.

Mr. Nijalingappa denied that the AICC had prepared a comprehensive note which, as reported in a section of the Press would be virtual indictment of Mrs. Gandhi's Government.

All that was being done was the preparation of a synopsis of the reports received from Gujarat and Maharashtra Governments about the implementation of the 10-point programme. Such notes about other States had been prepared for the Faridabad Congress.

Untenable

Two supporters of the Prime Minister Mr. D. Sanjivayya and Mr. Sitaram Kesari criticised here today the stands taken by the Congress President and Mr. Kamaraj.

Mr. Sanjivayya described the move to drop Mr. Subramaniam from CWC as untenable. The AICC rules did not preclude anybody from continuing on the Working Committee, he said.

Mr. Sanjivayya compared the situation with that of a minister who was not a member of the House and said that membership of a House could be acquired within a specified time.

Mr. Sanjivayya also felt that notices given to the Presidents of the U.P., Andhra Pradesh Congress Committees were not valid. If an office-bearer of the State Congress became a minister the AICC was duty bound to give him an opportunity to shed one of the posts. It had no authority to unseat anybody by an arbitrary notice. Mr. Kamlapati Tripathi had already resigned from the presidentship of the U.P.C.C. but that body had failed to elect his successor.

Mr. Kesari said that Mr. Kamaraj was trying to upset the ganisation from its roots after imost liquidating the Congress" Tamil Nadu. He appealed to r. Kamaraj and other leaders to op talking at cross purposes and implement the programme lopted by the Congress.

Mr. Kesari also referred to Mr. amaraj's reported remark in Iadras that he had made Mrs. ndira Gandhi the Prime Minisr twice and said that Mr. Kaaraj has only assisted Mr. lorarji Desai in becoming the eputy Prime Minister in 1967. Irs. Gandhi has an absolute maority for her in the Parliament ry Congress Party at that time.

Mrs. Gandhi had defeated Mr. esai in an open contest in 1966 nd the initiative had come from he Chief Ministers. The only onclusion to be drawn from Mr. amaraj's observations at the NCC meeting was that Mr. ubramaniam's disclosure was orrect when he said that Mr. amaraj had offered Prime Mistership to Mr. Y. B. Chavan oust Mrs. Gandhi, Mr. Kesari aid.

Mittal offer

LUDHIANA: Mr. Satpal Mittal, LC and member of All India ongress Committee, has offered is seat in AICC to Mr. Subraaniam to facilitate his election J and K Congress Working ommittee.

Opposed

PATNA: Mr. Ram Lakhan ingh Yadav, one of the general ecretaries of the Bihar Congress, oday opposed the reported move o oust Mr. A. P. Sharma from he presidentship of the PCC.

Mr. Yadav told newsmen this vening if Mr. Sharma were to be usted merely because he had suported the Prime Minister's stand n the recent Presidential election t would be "wrong and improper".

Quit call

CALCUTTA: Several members f the West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee today called upon Mr. Nijalingappa to quit his post o make room for one better suited o initiate the dynamic measures ecessary for early implementation f democratic socialism in the ountry.

JULLUNDUR: Newly-formed ongress Democratic Socialist ront, has demanded the resignaion of Mr. Nijalingappa.

A resolution adopted at the conention demanded implementation f the 10-point programme of the ongress party by the end of 1971.

INDIAN EXPRESS

14/10/1969

No intention to quit: S.N.

Express News Service

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

Congress President Nijalingappa made it clear today that he has no intention to resign from the presidentship of the Congress in response to his critics' demand.

Talking to newsmen, the Congress President said a consistent campaign had been launched to denigrate him. "Any stick is good enough to beat me with", he said.

But he challenged his detractors when he said, "Let anyone prove that I have done any wrong to the organisation or in fulfilling my duties as Congress President".

"I have," he emphasised, "followed the letter and spirit of the unity resolution of the Working Committee".

"Wherever I have gone and spoken I have pleaded with the Congressmen to forgive and forget whatever has happened in the past and start building up the party again".

"Even now my appeal to everyone is that let us forgive and forget the past and strive for the unity".

But he regretted that "to denigrate me has become a profitable game."

He also complained that even the Press, at least a section of it, was blowing up whatever was against him and giving in a low key whatever went in his favour. Could it be, he wondered, that the Press was under some fear complex.

Asked who were the people working against him, he said: "You will know them."

He said the current tension and conflict in the Congress could end "if the leaders cease to think of themselves and think more of the people and the country." The party, he warned, could not survive without discipline.

The Congress President was bitter about the manner in which the Subramaniam affair had been blown out of proportion by the Prime Minister's camp.

He denied the allegation that he was trying to squeeze out important supporters of the Prime Minister from the organisation. He said he was merely discharging his duties under the party constitution.

All that had happened, he said, was that one of the general secretaries of the AICC had advised him that Mr. Subramaniam had automatically ceased to be a member of the Working Committee after resigning as the president of the Tamil Nadu Pradesh Congress Committee. This was done in the normal course as it was the business of the AICC and the general secretaries to keep him informed of changes and when they took place.

He said he was vaguely aware of the rule under which a nominated member of the Working Committee could seek election within six months and that was why he asked the office to let him know the facts.

He regretted that senior party leaders thought it proper to send him a joint note without ascertaining whether in fact he had sent any letter to Mr. Subramaniam regarding his membership of the Working Committee. "Even the elementary courtesy of asking me was not extended to me by them."

Cooked up

When a newsmen referred to reports that one of the general secretaries might have told the Prime Minister's camp that he had sent the letter to Mr. Subramaniam, the Congress President said "it is a story created for the purpose." If any attempt was made to ferret out information from other staff members, it was not ethical, he added.

Mr. Nijalingappa said Mr. Subramaniam had been invited to the meeting of the Working Committee on Oct. 30. He had taken no decision yet on the continuance of his membership of the CWC.

(In Madras, Mr. Subramaniam told Express News Service today

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INDIAN EXPRESS

14/10/1969

P.M.'s reply to Swatantra MPs

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13 (UNI & PTI)

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has strongly defended India's decision to take part in the world Islamic summit at Rabat.

In reply to a letter written to her by Mr. C. C. Desai and four other Swatantra MPs, Mrs. Gandhi said though the Rabat conference "formally styled itself as Islamic, its contents were intensely political."

Mrs. Gandhi said India's presence there "helped rather than hindered the pursuit of our political objective."

In their joint letter dated Sept. 29, Mr. Desai and others wrote: "Speaking purely as Indians, regardless of party affiliation, we feel that this is a case of serious bungling in the Foreign Ministry of an unprecedented nature."

They demanded that "because of the grave offences committed by the Ministers and the bureaucrats in the External Affairs Ministry and also the Industrial Development Minister, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, for bringing about this public humiliation of our country, they should immediately be relieved of their present portfolios. Nothing short of that would satisfy our people.'

The following is the text of Mrs. Gandhi's reply:

I have your letter of September 28. I must say that I was somewhat surprised that one who has served as High Commissioner in Karachi and should know the inner working of Pakistan's foreign policy, should have reacted in the manner in which you have done to the Rabat conference and its aftermath. The high emotional tone of your letter is unlike a seasoned diplomat such as you.

I am just as concerned as you about upholding the dignity of our country and promoting and protecting our interests. However, you have rushed to certain conclusions which do not appear to be warranted. We have to act with dignity and restraint.

Indeed, the treatment meted out to the Indian delegation in Rabat is already producing reactions in a number of countries which are tending to work to the detriment of Pakistan and its supporters.

Although the Rabat conference formally styled itself as Islamic, its contents were intensely political. Situated as we are and knowing Pakistan's intentions our presence helped rather than hindered the pursuit of our political objective.

Mr. P. Sundarayya, general secretary of the CPM, today said in Calcutta that his party owud oppose the proposed no-confidence motion against the Indira Government on the Rabat issue in the forthcoming session of Parliament.

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Rabat episode

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interests in the region were not jeopardised. After all India was invited to the conference and India's Ambassador, Mr. Gurubachan Singh, had been able to address the opening session.

While the inconclusive discussion will be continued at its next meeting of the Cabinet, a section in the Cabinet pressed the view that some retaliatory action was called for against countries like Morocco and Jordan, which supported India's exclusion from the concluding session.

This was understood to have been implied in Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmed's recounting of the events at Rabat.

While no decision has yet been taken, it is likely that India's Ambassador may not be sent back to Rabat for some time. In the case of Jordan, India may review its trade relations with that country. India is importing mainly rock phosphate from that country at present in exchange for certain manufactured goods.

INDIAN EXPRESS

14/10/1969

Differences in Cabinet over Rabat

By Our Special Representative

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

The rebuff suffered by India at the recent Islamic summit conference at Rabat was believed to have been the subject of a detailed discussion in the External Affairs Committee of the Cabinet and the Union Cabinet itself this evening.

The informal discussion in the Cabinet which lasted about an hour, was inconclusive and was confined to a detailed review by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, of the circumstances in which the decision was taken to go to the conference.

The leader of the Indian delegation to Rabat conference, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, also gave his version of the events that led to India being kept out of the concluding session of the conference.

While Mr. Dinesh Singh is reported to have justified India's decision to participate in the conference, some Cabinet Ministers are believed to have expressed the view that it was a wrong decision.

Mr. Dinesh Singh is reported to have said that the main consideration behind the decision was to prevent purely religious meetings being utilised for political purposes and to ensure that India's

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INDIAN EXPRESS

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P.M. deplores C.W.C. apathy over riots

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said here today that apart from the question of membership of the Congress Working Committee, there were urgent problems like the communal situation to be discussed by the Working Committee.

The Prime Minister, indicating her desire for an early meeting of the CWC, said, "It seems strange that we have not discussed the communal situation so far."

The Working Committee, in the olden days, would have met immediately, she pointed out.

She was replying to correspondents aboard her special aicraft by which she returned to New Delhi on completion of her tour of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi islands.

About the likelihood of an AICC session, Mrs. Gandhi said she did not think there would be one before the next session of Parliament.

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of the standing committee of the National Integration Council, Mrs. Gandhi said that apart from the steps to be taken at the Government level for integration, much remained to be done by political parties.

Mrs. Gandhi was asked about the revitalisation of the Congress organisation to meet new challenges. "You cannot suddenly change the organisation," she replied. "Inspite of efforts, it is a very long-term matter."

To a question whether she thought she would be able to go ahead with her policies and programmes, Mrs. Gandhi replied, "One does not know whether one succeeds or not. One can only try."

Foreign policy

Referring to possible reassessment of India's foreign policy, in the context of the developments at Rabat, she reiterated she did not think that Rabat made any difference to Government's policy. "Just because you did not come off well in a particular conference, you cannot change the policy", she said.

Asked whether public opinion on the issue was not worked up, she said public opinion had to be educated. "We have to do what is right in the interest of the country".

Referring to possible criticisms in the next session of Parliament against Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Union Food Minister, for his reported failure to pay up his tax dues, she asked, "What is there to be criticised about it?"

She said that Mr. Jagjivan Ram had paid all tax arrears. Whatever penalty was to be paid he would pay it if he had not already done so. "We will not make any exception in his case", she said.

The Prime Minister was asked to comment on Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's reported statement that he would like India to fulfil the promises made to Kashmir.

She replied that she had not seen the statement.

Pak deaf

On Indo-Pakistani relations, she welcomed the meeting between the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. She said India, on her part, had been making efforts to improve relations with that country. Certain unilateral steps had been taken to promote this but she doubted whether Pakistan would make any favourable response.

Asked whether there was any likelihood of a change in the Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh to resolve the Telangana problems, Mrs .Gandhi said, "I do not know of any change".

She said the whole question of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana was to have come up before the last meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Board but it could not be discussed as Mr. Kamaraj was not present.

The Prime Minister said that if the impression went round that decisions could be taken on the basis of fasting, it would have immediate reaction in other States.

Asked about the solution she had in mind to resolve the Chandigarh issue, she replied it would not help unless it was acceptable to all parties.

She said it was very difficult to take a decision when there was fasting.

Referring to her visit to Laccadive islands, Mrs. Gandhi said it was a useful trip. These areas suffered from a great sense of isolation. It was difficult to understand them from a distance. During her visit she had been able to know their problems at first-hand and know the people better

INDIAN EXPRESS

14/10/1969

MPCC executive raps banks follow-up delay

By A Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, Oct. 13

The executive committee of the Mysore Pradesh Congress Committee has expressed concern at the delay in the Government taking follow-up measures after bank nationalisation.

The committee which met here this evening under the presidentship of Dr. Nagappa Alva, passed a resolution welcoming the steps taken by the Central Government in nationalising 14 major commercial banks in the country in pursuance of the decisions of the AICC, but noted with concern the delay in taking up these measures.

The committee urged upon the Centre to take immediate, adequate and effective steps to provide benefits to the weaker sections of society, particularly credit facilities to farmers and small-scale and cottage industries in the rural sector.

It also urged on the Government to implement all the progressive decisions taken by the AICC from time to time.

'Anguish'

Dr. Alva in his opening remarks, expressed his "concern and anguish" about the recent action taken by the Prime Minister and her colleagues in writing a hasty letter to the Congress President and giving wide publicity to it in the newspapers and over the radio about the alleged removal of a member from the Working Committee, without taking pains to verify the facts, according to a hand-out issued by the MPCC office. It said Dr. Alva felt that such actions were against the letter and spirit of the unity resolution passed by the CWC. Dr. Alva termed this action of the Prime Minister as most unfortunate.

The executive decided to construct another building in the Congress House compound. It also decided that a joint meeting of the MPCC and the Legislative Congress Party executive should be called before the next session of the legislature to consider the statistics regarding the development of different regions in the State contained in the Government brochure "Mysore after Integration".

The executive also decide to call for a political conference and a special session of the MPCC general body from Nov. 13 to 15 at Bijapur to consider constitutional amendments. The executive of the MPCC will meet on Nov. 13 at the same place.

INDIAN EXPRESS

14/10/1969

SOUTH-BASED MOVEMENT

New Kamaraj plan to salvage nation

Express News Service

MADRAS, Oct. 13

MR. K. Kamaraj hinted here today that a movement would be started in the South to put the country "on the right track"

Rather picturesquely, Mr. Kamaraj said the Indian train had gone on the wrong track. For the past 20 years, he said, it was running on the wrong track.

They in Tamil Nadu, he added, need not fear raising their voice (against the ruling group at the Centre) when the rest of the country had quietened down.

Gandhiji had always trusted Gujarat and Tamil Nadu as the backbone of his movements. Andhra had also been at the forefront. In fact, he said, the South could be depended upon to spearhead a movement to set the country back on the right track.

Mr. Kamaraj did not name the ruling group at the Centre, while criticising it. He said those in authority should not hesitate to change the direction in which they were going if it was the wrong direction.

Rap for Press

There was no use being stubborn and arrogant, he said.

Mr. Kamaraj also chided the Press for being afraid of the Government. This, he said, posed a danger to democracy. In support of his view, Mr. Kamaraj instanced what he called the "gross underestimation" of the crowd in the Gandhi centenary procession organised by the Congress in Madras on Oct. 5.

The Press, he said, had estimated the crowd at about one and a half lakhs, while his own estimate was that there was a crowd of at least two lakhs in the procession, and another two lakhs watched it en route.

If the Press was afraid to print the truth, and if people were afraid to speak or write what they felt, what would happen to democracy? he asked.

Even in voting, they would not vote according to their dictates but out of fear.

Party leaders had corrupted the people by buying their votes for one or two rupees each. Those elected were "bought" for Rs. 10,000. If this went on, where would democracy be, he asked.

"You must be able to change the Government. But if the fear complex spreads, then you won't be able to change the party in power and that is the end of democracy", he said.

Before freedom, Mr. Kamaraj said, the Press had boldly opposed the Government, but Gandhiji was there then. Now that spirit of fearlessness was not there.

Mr. Kamaraj was addressing a Gandhi centenary meeting organised by the Rajasthan Youth Association.

Miss Maniben Gandhi, granddaughter of Gandhiji, who spoke earlier, said Gandhiji's assassination was not the act of one person but reflected the hatred in the hearts of many. She praised the South's devotion to the Mahatma, as was evident from the large crowds she saw during the celebrations.

THE HINDU

14/10/1969

Congress Chief's Move Untenable, Says Sanjivayya

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

The former Congress President, Mr. D. Sanjivayya, said here to-day that Mr. Nijalingappa's "move to dislodge Mr. C. Subramaniam from the Working Committee was untenable."

Mr. Sanjivayya said the AICC rules did not preclude Mr. Subramaniam from continuing on the Working Committee and sought to draw the analogy of a Minister being in the Cabinet without being a member of the legislature for a given period.

At the time of election to the Working Committee, Mr. Subramaniam fulfilled the qualification and he was entitled to a full-term, he stated.

Similarly, the notices on the Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh Congress Presidents, Mr. Kakani Venkataratnam and Mr. Kamalapathi Tripathi, were not valid. When he was Congress President, Mr. Sanjivayya said, Mr. Darbara Singh of Punjab had held two posts and in such circumstances the AICC was duty bound to give the person concerned an opportunity to shed one of the posts, but it had no authority to unseat the person by an arbitrary notice.

In the case of Mr. Kamalapathi Tripathi, he had already submitted the resignation, but the UPCC failed to elect a new incumbent. Mr. Tripathi or Mr. Venkataratnam was, therefore, free to decide either to retain the Ministership or organistional post and it was not for the AICC to "unseat" them from presidentship of the Pradesh Congress.

C. B. GUPTA'S COMMENT

The U.P. Chief Minister, Mr C. B. Gupta, said in Naini Tal yesterday that he was unhappy that Congress leaders who should maintain unity and strengthen the party "should persist in illusory statements based on wrong information."

He was commenting on the letter which the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and her colleagues had written to the Congress President accusing him of "arbitrarily removing Mr. C. Subramaniam from the Congress Working Committee and the UPCC President, Mr. Tripathi and the Andhra P.C.C. President Mr. Venkataratnam, from their posts."

Mr. Gupta said "if things continue like this, the workers in the Congress organisation will feel bewildered and divide the Congress at each and every stage in the country."

Replying to a question with regard to Mr. Subramaniam and the two State Congress Presidents, Mr. Gupta said that these questions should be decided at the "proper forum."

NIJALINGAPPA URGED TO RESIGN

The newly-formed Congress Democratic Socialist Front, has demanded the resignation of the Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa.

The Front, in a day-long convention organised in Jullundur yesterday, compared the situation arising out of the differences between the Prime Minister and the party President to that when Mr. Purushottam Das Tandon was obliged to resign as President of the Congress.

A resolution adopted at the convention demanded implementation of the 10-point programme of the Congress Party by the end of 1971.—UNI and PTI.

THE HINDU

14/10/1969

No Exemption for Jagjivan Ram from I. T. Penalty

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, said to-day that no exception would be made in the case of payment of income-tax arrears by the Food Miniser, Mr. Jagjivan Ram.

Talking to correspondents who accompanied her to Laccadive Islands she said, Mr. Jagjivan Ram had paid all the arrears. Whatever the penalty, it would be paid, if it ad not been paid already.—UNI.

THE HINDU

14/10/1969

Congress Chief Rejects Dema

From Our Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

The Congress President, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, to-day joined issue with those who had demanded his resignation for the stand he had taken on the issue of Mr. C. Subramaniam's continuance as a member of the Working Committee.

"Any stick is good enough for them to beat me with", he told newsmen referring to the controversy in the party created by the contemplated move to disqualify Mr. Subramaniam from the membership of the Working Committee on his resignation as TNCC President.

Mr. Nijalingappa expressed his annoyance at the way some partymen were attempting to denigrate his position and said the present crisis in the party would end only if the leaders concerned began to think in terms of the party rather than of individuals.

Explaining the events leading to the Subramaniam episode, Mr. Nijalingappa admitted he was advised by the AICC office that Mr. Subramaniam ceased to be a member of the Working Committee the moment he resigned the State Congress Presidentship. He said he had not taken a decision as he wanted to be sure of the position. But on the strength of an office note on the subject. the controversy was raised.

Mr. Nijalingappa took exception to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, and five other senior leaders sending a protest letter even though he had not removed Mr. Subramaniam from the Working Committee. It appeared strange to him that these leaders did not show the courtesy of checking up the facts with him before sending the protest.

A correspondent enquired whether it was true that Mrs. Gandhi had acted on information supplied to her by one of the General Secretaries of the AICC that the Congress President had signed a letter disqualifying Mr. Subramaniam from continuing on the Working Committee.

Mr. Nijalingappa denied this saying "I do not believe it. As responsible leaders, they should receive the letter and go through its contents before writing to me".

The Congress President reacted sharply to the demand for his resignation and said he would not oblige them. Recalling that he had been forced to accept this office, he said, "let them show me what wrong I have done."

Mr. Nijalingappa also described the tendency to drive a wedge among the leaders by highlighting petty differences. "It looks as if there are more attempts to spot-light points of disagreem to floodlight areas of agr he said.

Asked whether there w areas of agreement, Mr. gappa replied in the affirm quipped, "Where is disag about policy? Who was th who first mooted bank sation?". He added satiri was Mr. Kamaraj and he come a reactionary."

Mr. Nijalingappa pointed he was also called a rea although he had wanted sector unit in his State for tion of cars.

Asked whether Mr. S. K criticism of ban on comp nations did not amount to reement on policy, the C President said it was not issue. "The ban on comp nations was not a decision Working Committee but of Parliament sponsored b Government," he said. He nothing wrong in any mem pressing his views on it.

P.M. Declines Comment

NEW DELHI, Oc

The Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, to-day decl comment on the developm regard to Mr. C. Subrama membership of the Co

PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

Tender Notice

SEALED tenders are invited for the supply of coal handling plant, capacity 500 TPH, mainly consisting of the following items for Bhatinda Thermal Project:

1. Heavy duty apron/electromagnetic vibrating feeders with drive mechanism etc.
2. Conveyor belts grade Band ancillary equipments of following sizes:
   (a) 1067mm wide, 8 ply, 1020 gms cotton duck.
   (b) 914 mm wide, 5 ply, 907 gms cotton duck.
3. Vibrating screens of 10 mm size
4. Hammer or ring roll crushers.
5. Belt propelled tippers.
6. Reclaim and manual unloading hoppers.
7. Wagon tippler and ancillary equipments.

The detailed specifications costing Rs. 100/- can be had from the office of the Director, Bhatinda Thermal Project, P.S.E.B., Rozen Heim, Bhupinder Nagar, Patiala (Punjab) against payment through crossed Indian Postal Orders in favour of Assistant Accounts Officer, Patiala Division, P.S.E.B., Patiala. No other mode of payment shall be accepted. Tenders shall be submitted in quadruplicate enclosed in double covers with inner cover sealed and superscribed as, "Tender for Coal Handling Plant & Wagon Tippler, Specification No. 23/TP due on 20-11-1969." The tenders shall be received at the above mentioned office upto 3-00 p.m. on 20-11-1969 and shall be opened immediately thereafter. Buying of specification for submission of tender is a must, otherwise tenders shall be rejected. Incomplete and/or telegraphic tenders or tenders received late shall not be entertained. Requests for extensions shall be ignored.

Sd/-
for Director,
Thermal Design Directorate,
P.S.E.B., Patiala

GR 1672

THE HINDU

14/10/1969

Ministers Review Rabat Rebuff

Union Cabinet Begins Discussion

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

...The Union Cabinet discussed for about an hour to-day the reverse suffered by the Government at the Islamic summit conference at Rabat.

The Cabinet could only hear extensive reviews by Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh and Industrial Development Minister, Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed to-day.

Detailed discussions are likely to take place at the next meeting of the Cabinet scheduled for October 15.

Earlier the Cabinet Committee on External Affairs also met and considered the issue.—UNI.

P.M. Defends India's Presence

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi has strongly defended India's decision to take part in the Islamic Summit at Rabat.

In reply to a letter written to her by Mh. C. C. Desai and four other Swatantra M.Ps., Mrs. Gandhi said though the Rabat conference "formally styled itself Islamic, its contents were intensely political".

Mrs. Gandhi said that India's presence there "helped rather than hindered the pursuit of our political objective."

In their joint letter dated September 29, Mr. Desai and others wrote: "Speaking purely as Indians, regardless of party affiliation, we feel that this is a case of serious bungling in the Foreign Ministry of an unprecedented nature".

They demanded that "because of the grave offences committed by the Ministers and the bureaucrats in the External Affairs Ministry and also the Industrial Development Minister, Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, for bringing about this public humiliation of our country, they should immediately be relieved of their present portfolios. Nothing short of that would satisfy our people."

Indeed, the treatment meted out to the Indian delegation in Rabat is already producing reactions in a number of countries which are tending to work to the detriment of Pakistan and its supporters.

THE HINDU

14/10/1969

Sadiq Ali Criticises APCC Role in Council Poll

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

The Congress General Secretary, Mr. Sadiq Ali, is understood to have addressed a strongly-worded communication to the President of the Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee, Mr. K. Venkataratnam about the defeat of the officially-approved candidate, Mr. R. L. Narayana, in the recent elections to the Legislative Council of the State.

Mr. Sadiq Ali has criticised the manner in which the Pradesh Congress Committee ignored the decision of the Congress President and got Mrs. Rajamani Devi elected, despite AICC's rejection of her candidature.

AICC sources refuted Mr. Venkataratnam's criticism that the AICC had sent its letter regarding Mr. Narayana's candidature after the election was over.

It is stated that the High Command's approval of Mr. Narayana's name was conveyed by Mr. Sadiq Ali to the Chief Minister, Mr. K. Brahmananda Reddi who was here on September 26 but he declined to accept it since the Congress President had not heeded his plea. It was for the AICC to send the communication direct to the APCC Mr. Brahmananda Reddi said.

One of the General Secretaries of the AICC was contacted over the phone and told of the High Command's decision. A telegram was also sent to the APCC. A formal letter was then posted. AICC sources said that even if the letter might have reached the P.C.C. office after the elections to the Council, the Pradesh Congress leaders from the Chief Minister downwards, could not plead ignorance of the AICC's decision.

AICC sources said that in this entire episode, the APCC had tried to keep the AICC in the dark. Despite repeated reminders, the proposal for Mrs. Rajamani Devi was sent by the APCC to the AICC only a day prior to the date of nomination. Nevertheless, the AICC office found out that she had opposed the official Congress candidate in the 1967 poll after denial of ticket by the party. The APCC, it is stated, was informed of the AICC's disapproval several days before the poll.

Though the Chief Minister was prepared to have a third candidate only two candidates were in the field—Mrs. Rajamani Devi and Mr. R. L. Narayana. In view of this, the AICC had finally to approve of Mr. Narayana's name setting aside the Chief Minister's opposition on the ground of his participation in the Telengana satyagraha.

These sources also revealed that before reaching this decision, Mr. Sadiq Ali had consulted members of the Parliamentary Board who were available and they included Mr. S. K. Patil, Mr. K. Kamaraj, Mr. Morarji Desai and Mr. Jagjivan Ram.—UNI.

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

New crisis brewing over AP debacle

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

Congress General Secretary Sadiq Ali is understood to have addressed a strongly-worded communication to APCC President K. Venkataratnam about the defeat of the officially-approved candidate, Mr. R. L. Narayana, in the Legislative Council election.

Mr. Sadiq Ali has criticised the manner in which the PCC ignored the decision of the Congress President and got Mrs. Raja Mani Devi elected, despite the AICC's rejection of her candidature.

The AICC sources yesterday refuted Mr. Venkataratnam's criticism that the AICC had sent its letter regarding Mr. Narayana's candidature after the election was over.

CM INFORMED

It is stated that the High Command's approval of Mr. Narayana's name was conveyed by Mr. Sadiq Ali to Chief Minister K. Brahmananda Reddy who was here on September 26, but he declined to own responsibility for his success since the Congress President had not heeded his plea. He said it was for the AICC to send the communication direct to the APCC.

One of the APCC General Secretaries was contacted over the phone and told of the High Command's decision. A telegram was also sent to the APCC. A formal letter was then posted for the sake of formality. The AICC sources said that even if the letter might have reached the PCC office after the elections to the Council, the Pradesh Congress leaders from the Chief Minister downwards, could not plead ignorance of the AICC's decision.

AICC IN DARK

In this entire episode, the APCC had tried to keep the AICC in the dark. Despite repeated reminders, the proposal for Mrs. Raja Mani Devi was sent by the APCC to the AICC only a day prior to the date of nomination. Nevertheless, the AICC office found out she was a Red-liner (had opposed the official Congress candidate in the 1967-poll after denial of ticket by the party). The APCC, it is stated, was informed of the AICC's disapproval several days before the poll.

Though the Chief Minister was prepared to have a third candidate, only two candidates were in the field—Mrs. Raja Mani Devi and Mr. Narayana. In view of this, the AICC had finally to approve of Mr. Narayana's name setting aside the Chief Minister's opposition on the ground of his participation in the Telengana Satyagraha.

Before reaching this decision, Mr. Sadiq Ali had consulted members of the Parliamentary Board who were available, including Messrs. S. K. Patil, K. Kamaraj, Morarji Desai and Jagjivan Ram.—UNI.

APCC possesses clear proof

HYDERABAD, Oct. 13.—The APCC circles last night expressed their resentment at the "strongly-worded" communication reported to have been sent by AICC General Secretary Sadiq Ali to APCC President Venkataratnam about the episode of by-election to the Council from the Assembly constituency.

A Ministerial spokesman said that whatever version Mr. Sadiq Ali might try to give, there was no denying the fact that the AICC letter approving Mr. L. Narayana's candidature was received by the APCC President on September 29 and by the Chief Minister on September 30. Both the covers with date stamps were available and would be produced for the benefit of Mr. Sadiq Ali, the spokesman said.—UNI.

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

Moves against PM on Jagjivan's tax issue

From Our Special Correspondent

For Mrs. Gandhi's opponents who had been awaiting a chance to attack her, Mr. Jagjivan Ram's income-tax *faux pas* provides a God-sent opportunity. Non-submission of income-tax returns for 10 years is quite a serious lapse, especially when it concerns a pillar of the Government, and Mrs. Gandhi's thoughtless observation that it was a case of "forgetfulness" has naturally added fuel to the fire.

On Mr. Jagjivan Ram's file, Mr. Morarji Desai, when he was Finance Minister, had reportedly written that he (Jagjivan Ram) must be given the maximum penalty under the law. Mr. Desai did not stay in office to see the end of the case, and his direction obeyed. But Mrs. Gandhi, to whom the file was also referred, is said to have observed that the law should take its normal course.

At issue is not merely the quantum of punishment. The Opposition parties and Mrs. Gandhi's opponents within the Congress will "go to town" with Mr. Jagjivan Ram's case. They have been in a fix: they wanted to criticise Mrs. Gandhi but had to keep quiet, because any discordance they knew would be construed as criticism of the nationalisation of banks, a step which has popular support. Mrs. Gandhi's opponents just could not do anything, and awaited the time when the dust over the nationalisation of banks would settle down.

LONG AWAITED

The Jagjivan Ram episode offers them an issue over which the people strongly feel a sense of moral indignation. There is no question here of Left versus Right. Mrs. Gandhi's opponents are not obliged to project a progressive image of themselves; they have a moral issue to be settled. In Mr. Jagjivan Ram, they find the Achilles' heel of Mrs. Gandhi and they will exploit it to the maximum extent.

Mrs. Gandhi's own embarrassment is understandable. She will not like to be dubbed a person who wants to hush up a case of non-payment of tax, just because the defaulter is her supporter. In fact Mr. Desai and Mr. Vajpayee, the Jan Sangh President, are on record that when Mr. Jagjivan Ram's name was first mentioned as the Congress candidate for the Presidential election, Mrs. Gandhi herself discouraged the name on the ground that he had defaulted payment of income-tax and wealth tax. This makes her position all the more embarrassing.

But if she allows "the law to take its course", she may be throwing Mr. Jagjivan Ram to the wolves. The penalty for non-payment of tax can be severe. More than the money, can a person found to have been a tax-evader for whatever reason be allowed to occupy a high position? And once it is proved that Mr. Jagjivan Ram has not paid taxes, she will not be able to retain him in the Cabinet. Some MPs propose to approach the President, and some may submit a memorandum against Mr. Jagjivan Ram. The fact that legislation for the appointment of Lok Pal has been passed will help them.

Mrs. Gandhi cannot afford to drop him because he has been—and still is—her biggest support. Her opponents would very much want her to drop him so that they

DELHI LETTER

could then make out that even Mr. Jagjivan Ram, who supported her, was shunted out when it became inconvenient for her. After a while—so they calculate,—Mr. Jagjivan Ram would himself feel, as a result of their subliminal technique of anti-P.M. propaganda, that he has been sacrificed. And they hope that as he must stay in politics, he will be forced to join hands with her opponents. The aim is to dent the image of her being the protector and promotor of minorities' interests, because the exit of Mr. Jagjivan Ram will entail Harijan annoyance.

If she does not drop him, her position will become morally untenable. There may even be a vote of no-confidence in Parliament on this point. The anti-Mrs. Gandhi group may create difficulties at the time of voting, even if the Communists come to the rescue of the Government.

The person who is probably happy over this development is Home Minister Y. B. Chavan. He can now be sure that Mrs. Gandhi will not appoint Mr. Jagjivan Ram as Deputy Prime Minister. It is an open secret that but for this tax affair, Mrs. Gandhi would have given Mr. Jagjivan Ram the vacancy caused by Mr. Desai's exit. Had he been appointed Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Chavan would have felt humiliated. He might have even resigned and obliged Mrs. Gandhi who in any case will be looking for some other way to cut Mr. Chavan to size. At present, the question before her is how to get out of the tight spot to which the disclosure about Mr. Jagjivan Ram has driven her.

To Mr. Ram's bad luck, he is being denigrated at the highest levels of the party and the Government by a close kin who claims to have much documentary evidence damaging the Minister.

NOT ENOUGH

Mr. Jagjivan Ram has consulted some income-tax experts who advise him to pay the arrears with any penalty the Department may deem fit to levy. He can go scot-free if he has no other income except his salary. But his problem is moral—how to defend non-payment for 10 years. He wants to join issue with the Department for not sending him the right kind of forms or for sending them to the wrong address. But still he knows he is not on firm ground.

In the days to come, he wants to toe a more Leftist line so that the Communists at least stay behind him. Also, he wants to project an image of a progressive who was being defamed and denigrated because he is on the Left. Whether this strategy will save him it is difficult to say, but the Communists want to support him—at least for the time being. Mr. Jagjivan Ram knows that is not enough.

* * *

It appears that Mr. L. P. Singh, the Home Secretary, may not get this year the post of Cabinet Secretary. He has been hoping to get this assignment when Mr. Sivaram, the present Cabinet Secretary, retires in November. Mr. Chakravarty, who is the Education Secretary, and a year senior to Mr. L. P. Singh, is likely to be appointed Cabinet Secretary. There is something more to the posting than what meets the eye. Mr. L. P. Singh, after Mr. Chavan's alleged perfidy in Bangalore, is not being trusted. Mr. Chakravarty, however pedantic and colourless, is at least considered dependable.

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

Discipline vital, says party chief

(Continued from Page 1)

legations were made against him. The aim, he said, seemed to be his ouster from the presidentship of the party.

When his attention was drawn to the continuing criticisms of the party's basic policies by Mr. S. K. Patil and others, he declined to comment.

He confirmed that Mr. Subramaniam had been invited to the Working Committee meeting on October 30. He gave the impression that it would be for the Working Committee to give its verdict on the constitutional implications of Mr. Subramaniam's resignation as the TNCC President.

UNI adds: Mr. Nijalingappa said he was not going to resign his office in response to the demand made in some quarters.

He said it was for his critics to prove "what wrong I have done to the organisation or in fulfilling my duties as Congress President."

No resignation

To a correspondent's question as to who were the people working against him, Mr. Nijalingappa replied "you all know them and these reports are published in the press."

The Congress President asserted that on his part he had strictly adhered to the unity resolution passed by the Working Committee on August 25. Wherever he had gone he had called upon the Congress to "bury the hatchet" and open a new chapter of cooperation.

Asked when the conflict among top leaders will end, Mr. Nijalingappa said "this will end if the leaders cease to think of themselves and think more of the people and the country."

He said that without discipline the Congress could not survive.

He was amazed that senior party leaders thought it proper to send him a joint note without ascertaining whether in fact he had addressed any letter to Mr. Subramaniam regarding his CWC membership. "The elementary courtesy of at least asking me was not extended to me by them," he said.

The Congress President said he had rung up Home Minister Y. B. Chavan after receiving the letter and conveyed his distress at their action. Mr. Chavan told him that the whole issue was so sensitive that they had to do something immediately on hearing reports about Mr. Subramaniam's removal from the Working Committee.

No motivation

A correspondent remarked that his proposed action against Mr. Subramaniam could be regarded as part of an effort to squeeze out important followers of the Prime Minister from the organisation. The Congress President denied any such motivation and said that he had only wanted to discharge his obligations under the party constitution.

Mr. Nijalingappa denied that there were any differences in the party on policies. He asked whether it was not true that Mr. K. Kamaraj was the first senior leader to demand nationalisation of banks. There were some attempts to dub some people as "reactionaries" without any warrant, he added.

Recounting the Subramaniam episode, Mr. Nijalingappa said that a few days ago his attention was drawn to this matter by the AICC office, particularly by one of the General Secretaries who told him that Mr. Subramaniam had ceased to be a member of the CWC on the lapse of his ex-officio membership of the AICC.

Mr. Nijalingappa said he then inquired if he could not be in the CWC without being in the AICC for six months. He was told that this could apply only to those nominated by him and not others elected by the AICC. He was also informed that Mr. Subramaniam ceased to be a member of the CWC immediately.

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

No rift with PM, says Nijalingappa

WANTS AICC ECONOMIC MOTION IMPLEMENTED

From NARAYAN SWAMY

NEW DELHI, October 13.

CONGRESS PRESIDENT Nijalingappa claimed here today that for his part, he had no policy differences with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and that he wanted the Bangalore AICC resolution on the economic situation to be implemented.

Speaking at a press conference this evening, Mr. Nijalingappa also denied that the AICC Office had prepared any note on the subject with a view to embarrassing the Prime Minister.

It was an embittered Congress President who met the newsmen. He complained that sustained efforts were being made to denigrate him and apparently any stick was good enough to beat with.

Mr. Nijalingappa's comments were occasioned by the charges of arbitrary action on his part in trying to remove Mr. C. Subramaniam from the Working Committee and subsequent appeals to him to step down from his office.

The Congress President asserted that he had not signed any letter to Mr. Subramaniam suggesting that he has been removed from the Working Committee. Nor had he written to Mr. Kamalapathi Tripathi or Mr. Kakani Venkatratnam asking them to hand over charge to the vice-presidents of the respective Pradesh Congress Committees.

Denied

His attention was drawn to reports circulating in Delhi that the Prime Minister contacted an AICC General Secretary on Wednesday last and that he informed her that a letter to Mr. Subramaniam was ready to be despatched. He denied knowledge of any such conversation.

Mr. Nijalingappa's case appears to be that even in the absence of any specific move by him, al-

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 2)

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

PM's action termed unfortunate

BANGALORE, Oct. 13. — The Mysore Pradesh Congress Committee President, Dr. Nagappa Alva, has termed as "unfortunate" the action of the Prime Minister and her colleagues in writing a hasty letter' to the Congress President, Mr. Nijalingappa.

In his opening remarks at the M.P.C.C. Executive meeting held here today, Dr. Alva expressed 'anguish and concern' about the letter and the giving of wide publicity in the newspapers and over the radio about the 'alleged removal of a member of the Working Committee without taking pains to verify the facts'.

Such action, he said, was against the letter and spirit of the Unity Resolution passed by the Congress Working Committee.

Dr. Alva called for discipline and unity in the organisation and cautioned them against the designs of Communists and communalists in the country.

The meeting adopted a resolution urging the Government of India to take up without delay follow-up measures to provide benefits of Bank Nationalisation to the weaker sections of society like farmers and small-scale and cottage industries in the rural sectors.

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

Maharashtra PCC & Chavan criticised

KOLHAPUR, Oct. 13. — The leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly, Mr. K. N. Dhulap, has charged the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee and Union Home Minister Y. B. Chavan with playing power politics.

Addressing a public meeting here yesterday, Mr. Dhulap said the M.P.C.C. and Mr. Chavan had supported the "Syndicate" candidate in the presidential election, but changed their stand and supported Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's progressive programmes when Mr. Sanjiva Reddy was defeated.

He feared that the present Congress organisation, which according to him was full of "selfish people", would not be able to make the bank nationalisation a success.

DECCAN HERALD

14/10/1969

Rabat won't affect foreign policy: PM

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi reiterated today that she did not think that Rabat made any difference to the Government's foreign policy.

She was replying to correspondents aboard her special aircraft by which she returned to New Delhi today on completion of her tour of the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive Islands.

Referring to possible reassessment of India's foreign policy, in the context of the developments at Rabat, she said: "Just because you did not come off well in a particular conference, you cannot change the policy."

Asked whether public opinion on the issue was not worked up, she said public opinion had to be educated. "We have to do what is right in the interest of the country."

NO CRISIS

Talking about the Congress Party, Mrs. Gandhi denied there was any crisis.

Asked if she would pursue the progressive measures, in the face of hostility to them by a section of Congressmen, Mrs. Gandhi said nobody said they were hostile to the progressive programmes.

The Prime Minister said there should be many more meetings of the Congress Working Committee so that party leaders could keep in touch with one another on all subjects and on problems like communalism.

Mrs. Gandhi ruled out a meeting of the All-India Congress Committee before the forthcoming session of Parliament.

Asked to comment on the happenings in the Congress Party during the last few days Mrs. Gandhi replied "I am not making any comments because I have not seen any statements. I have not read newspapers for the last four days."

Mrs. Gandhi declined to comment on the developments in regard to the Working Committee membership of Mr. C. Subramaniam and also on the election of a new President in the Tamil Nadu Congress in his place.

Asked whether she would still insist on an early meeting of the Congress Working Committee, Mrs. Gandhi said that apart from other matters, she felt there were urgent problems like the communal situation to be discussed. "It seems strange that we have not discussed the communal situation so far", she said. The Working Committee in the olden days would have met immediately.

INTEGRATION

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of the standing committee of the National Integration Council, Mrs. Gandhi said that apart from the steps to be taken at the Government level for integration, much remained to be done by political parties.

Mrs. Gandhi was asked about the revitalisation of the Congress organisation to meet new challenges. "You cannot suddenly change the organisation," she replied.

On the question of Chandigarh, Mrs. Gandhi reiterated that it would be difficult to take a decision when there were fasts and agitations. Fasting leader Darshan Singh Pheruman had taken strong exception to her statement to Congress legislators recently that she would not do anything under pressure, she added.

"In fact I was deeply concerned about him and his fast. What I did say was that for some reason an impression had gone round that you could get decisions by this type of fasting. I said this is very wrong for the country."

Questioned whether she had in mind a solution for the Chandigarh issue, Mrs. Gandhi asked what was the use of announcing a solution unless it was acceptable to the parties concerned.

She declined to answer a question about whether Andhra Pradesh would have a new Chief Minister. She said the question of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana was to have come before the meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Board. But Mr. Kamaraj could not come and the discussion was postponed.

KASHMIR

The Prime Minister was asked to comment on Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's reported statement that he would like India to fulfil the promises made to Kashmir.

She replied that she had not seen the statement.

On Indo-Pakistan relations, she welcomed the meeting between External Affairs Minister Dinesh Singh and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. She said India, on her part, had been making efforts to improve relations with that country. Certain unilateral steps had been taken to promote this but she doubted whether Pakistan would make any favourable response.

About securing the release of the Dr. Telo Mascarenhas, Goan patriot who is still in a Portuguese jail, Mrs. Gandhi said, "We are doing our duty."

Referring to her visit to the Laccadive Islands, Mrs. Gandhi said it was a useful trip. These areas suffered from a great sense of isolation. It was difficult to understand them from a distance. During her visit she had been able to know their problems at first hand and know the people better.—PTI & UNI.

THE MAIL

14/10/1969

RABAT EPISODE AND AFTER

INDIRA RULES OUT CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY

Early CWC Meet Favoured to Discuss Vital Issues

STAND ON CHANDIGARH REITERATED

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13.

THE Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, today ruled out any change in foreign policy as a result of the Rabat episode.

She also referred to Congress party affairs and said an early C.W.C. meeting was desirable to discuss important issues like the communal problem.

Referring to Chandigarh, the Prime Minister said that if the impression went round that decisions could be taken on the basis of fasting, it would have immediate reaction in other States.

She was replying to correspondents aboard her special aircraft by which she returned to New Delhi today on completion of her tour of Laccadives, Minicoy and Amindive islands.

Asked about the solution she had in mind to resolve the Chandigarh issue, she replied it would not help unless it was acceptable to all parties. She said it was very difficult to take a decision when there was fasting.

No Comment on CS Episode

Mrs Gandhi declined to comment on the developments in regard to the membership of the Working Committee of Mr C. Subramaniam and also on the election of a new president of the Tamilnadu Congress in his place.

Asked whether she would still insist on an early meeting of the Congress Working Committee, Mrs Gandhi said that apart from other matters, she felt there were urgent problems like the communal situation to be discussed. "It seems strange that we have not discussed the communal situation so far," she said. The Working Committee in the olden days would have met immediately.

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Integration Council, Mrs Gandhi said that apart from the steps to be taken at the Government level for integration, much remained to be done by political parties.

Revitalisation of Congress

Mrs Gandhi was asked about the revitalisation of the Congress to meet new challenges. "You cannot suddenly change the organisation", she replied. "In spite of efforts, it is a very long-term matter".

To a question whether she thought she would be able to go ahead with her policies and programmes, Mrs Gandhi replied "one does not know whether one succeeds or not. One can only try".

About the likelihood of an AICC session, Mrs Gandhi said she did not think there would be one before the next session of Parliament.

Jagjivan Ram's Tax Dues

Referring to possible reassessment of Government of India's foreign policy, in the context of the developments at Rabat, she reiterated she did not think that Rabat made any difference to the Government's policy. "Just because you did not come off well in a particular conference, you cannot change the policy", she said.

Asked whether public opinion on the issue was not worked up, she said public opinion had to be educated. "We have to do what is right in the interests of the country".

Referring to possible criticisms in the next session of Parliament against Mr Jagjivan Ram, Union Food Minister, for his reported failure to pay up his tax dues, she asked "what is there to be criticised about it".

She said that Mr Jagjivan Ram had paid all tax arrears. Whatever penaltry was to be paid, he would pay it if he had not already done so "we will not make any exception in his case", she said.

Kashmir

The Prime Minister was asked to comment on Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's reported statement that he would like India to fulfil the promises made to Kashmir.

She replied that she had not seen the statement.

On Indo-Pakistani relations, she welcomed the meeting between the External Affairs Minister, Mr Dinesh Singh, and the Foreign Minister of Pakistan. She said India, on her part, had been making efforts to improve relations with that country. Certain unilateral steps had been taken to promote this but she doubted whether Pakistan would make any favourable response.

Telengana Issue

Asked whether there was any likelihood of a change in the Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh to resolve the Telengana problems, Mrs Gandhi said "I do not know of any change."

She said the whole question of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana was to have come up before the last meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Board but it could not be discussed as Mr Kamaraj was not present.—PTI.

THE HINDU

14/10/1969

No Decisions on the Basis of Fasting – Mrs. Gandhi

NEW DELHI, Oct. 13

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi said here to-day that if the impression went round that decisions could be taken on the basis of fasting, it would have immediate reaction in other States.

She was replying to the corrrespondents aboard her special aircraft by which she returned to New Delhi to-day on completion of her tour of Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindive Islands.

Asked about the solution she had in mind to resolve the Chandigarh issue, she replied it would not help unless it was acceptable to all parties.

She said it was very difficult to take a decision when there was fasting.

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Integration Council, Mrs. Gandhi said that apart from the steps to be taken at the Government level for integration, much remained to be done by political parties.

FOREIGN POLICY NOT TO BE REVIEWED

Referring to possible reassessment of Government of India's foreign policy, in the context of the developments at Rabat, she reiterated she did not think that the Rabat, conference made any difference to Government's policy. "Just because you did not come off well in a particular conference, you cannot change the policy" she said.

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Asked whether there was any likelihood of a change in the Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh to resolve the Telengana problems, Mrs. Gandhi said "I do not know of any change."

ANDHRA CHIEF MINISHERSHIP

She said the whole question of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana was to have come up before the last meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Board, but it could not be discussed as Mr. Kamaraj was not present.

USEFUL TRIP TO LACCADIVES

Referring to her visit to the Laccadive Islands, Mrs. Gandhi said it was a useful trip. These areas suffered from a great sense of isolation. It was difficult to understand them from a distance. During her visit she had been able to know their problems at first hand and know the people better.

A Panaji reports says:

The Prime Minister arrived earlier this morning at the Dabolim airport, 36 kms. from here, on her way to Delhi.

In a brief interview at the airport Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who appeared tired told Pressmen that the Minicoy and the Laccadives were very beautiful, and there were plans to start a regular steamer service to the islands from the mainland.

There was no communal tension there although there was difference of opinion among the people.

Asked to comment on the happenings in the Congress Party during the last few days, Mrs. Gandhi replied: "I am not making any comments because I have not seen any statements. I have not read newspapers for the last four days."

About securing the release of the Dr. Telo Mascarenhas, Goan patriot, who is still in Protuguese jail, Mrs. Gandhi said "we are doing our duty."

Asked whether there were plans to give statehood to union territories, Mrs. Gandhi replied "no one has approached me."—PTI.